(2) Much of the profit of the *coir* trade went to the middleman. In order to avoid this, some organisation should be formed on co-operative principles which would be able to sell the commodities directly in the consuming market.

(3) Appointment of Government trade agents in foreign countries to find out proper markets for *coir* articles.

(4) Grant of industrial loans to *coir* industrialists.

(5) Publication of leaflets by the Industries Department for disseminating scientific knowledge among laymen engaged in *coir* industry.

DEWAN'S REPLY: Mr. Kunjukrishnan, a committee to enquire into the condition of factory industries has been appointed; it has not started work yet, but it will do so soon. The committee will enquire into the state of factory industries, in general, and the *coir* industry, in particular, and, when the report of the committee is received and taken up for consideration, your suggestions for protecting the industry will also be considered.

The other suggestions you have made will also be considered.

27. Suggestions for encouraging industrial habits among women.

SRIMATI K. BHAGIRATHI AMMA (*Nominated*) thanked the Government for nominating her as a member of the Assembly and prayed for a long and prosperous reign of His Highness the Maha Raja. She said that the future of the women of the country depended upon their industry. The system of education obtaining in the State was only fit to produce persons for Government service. Seventy per cent. of the educated women were unemployed and did not know how to make use of their education for earning their livelihood. The Travancore Government could not provide employment for all the educated women, so that the present day education was aimless and ended in disappointment of the educated. A scheme had therefore to be planned for providing employment to women and encouraging them in their industrial habits. The formulation and success of any such scheme necessarily depended to a large extent on Government help. The member suggested the following scheme for the sympathetic consideration of the Government:—

(1) An industrial institute should be opened for the benefit of women. For this, an extent of 20 acres of land within a distance of 3 to 4 miles from the Trivandrum town should be granted free.

(2) A building grant should also be awarded for erecting the necessary buildings on the site.

(3) A loan of Rs. 35,000, free of interest for five years and repayable within a period of 25 years, should be advanced for starting useful and profitable industries. There was no objection to the Government exercising any sort of control as regards the prope utilisation of the loan.

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(4) The Director of Industries should be directed to inspect the institute and give timely and expert advice in regard to the development of the industries started. The industries to be started would of course be those profitable and suitable to women.

The member said she had confidence in the scheme outlined and it would in due course convince the Government also of its usefulness. This was sure to help the women to earn their livelihood by honest labour and she hoped that the Government would not grudge to consider the scheme and sanction it.

DEWAN'S REPLY: Srimati Bhagirathi Amma, your very interesting suggestions will receive sympathetic consideration. Unfortunately, this is just the wrong time for starting any scheme which involves a large expenditure. It might be better, perhaps, to start with a less ambitious scheme than the one outlined. As it is, any industrial school will be able to get a grant-in-aid, and any indutstrial concern will be able to get an industrial loan. Anything on that line, I can assure you, will be very sympathetically considered.

The Assembly adjourned at 4·38 P. M. to meet again at 11·30 A. M the next day.

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